

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FORN, PFOR, BE

SUBJECT: ARTICLE BY BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ON "EUROPEAN COMMUNISM"

1. JEAN TERFVE, VICE PRESIDENT OF BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PARTY'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL FIGURE, PUBLISHED ARTICLE IN JANUARY 6 EDITION OF FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY LE SOIR ON "EURO-COMMUNISM." HE SAID THE TERM WAS COINED BY ADVERSARIES OF COMMUNISM TO CHARACTERIZE GENERAL LINE OF THOUGHT AND ACTION OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN ADVANCED COUNTRIES OF WESTERN EUROPE. IMPLICATION IS THAT THESE PARTIES TRYING TO BREAK UMBILICAL CORD WITH MOSCOW. HE SAID THAT CONSIDERED IN THESE TERMS ISSUE IS BADLY POSED. HE CLAIMS ACTION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IS LOGICAL EVOLUTION DETERMINED BY SOCIETIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE. PROBLEM IS ONE OF POWER WHICH IS SOUGHT AND ACCEPTED BY SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY EXERCIZING DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS. THIS IS WHY COMMUNIST PARTIES ARE TRYING

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TO TAKE INITIATIVE WHICH THEY ARE READY TO SHARE WITH OTHERS.

HE CLAIMS THIS IS FAR DIFFERENT THAN TASK WHICH COMMUNIST PARTY IN SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES HAVE HAD, AND THIS EXPLAINS DIFFERENCES WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. HE SAID THESE DISCUSSIONS AND CONFRONTATIONS DO NOT SIGNIFY ANY RUPTURE AND IN FACT CALL FOR GREATER COHESION OF COMMUNIST MOVEMENT.

2. HE ASSERTS IN PARTICULAR THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION ARE THE RESULT OF COHESION AND STRENGTH OF SOCIALIST (COMMUNIST) COUNTRIES. HE CONCLUDES THAT THE FREEDOM WHICH INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT ENJOY TO SEEK THEIR OWN WAY IS NOT IN CONTRADICTION WITH THE OVERALL MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND SOLIDARITY OF THE MOVEMENT, WHICH SERVES ALL COMMUNISTS AND THEIR ALLIES.

3. COMMENT: TERFVE SEEKS TO PLACE THE MINISCULE BELGIAN CP SQUARELY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD BETWEEN MOSCOW SYCOPHANTS AND THE INDEPENDENT-SPIRITED ITALIAN AND FRENCH PARTIES. HE LINE OF ARGUMENT, HOWEVER, MUST SURELY READ BETTER IN ROME THAN IN MOSCOW. FIRESTONE

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